



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food Safety  
and Inspection  
Service

Washington, D.C.  
20250

AUG 20 2002

Dr. Eliezer Nili  
Director, Control of Animal Products  
Veterinary Services and Animal Health  
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development  
State of Israel  
P.O. Box 12  
Beit Dagan, 50250  
Israel

Dear Dr. Nili:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final report of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) on-site audit of Israel's poultry inspection system. This audit was conducted from February 26 through March 17, 2002. We received your letter dated July 7, 2002, and incorporated it into the Final report as Attachment "G."

We appreciate the corrective actions taken by the Government of Israel to address the HACCP and other inspection deficiencies noted during the audit, i.e., species verification testing not being conducted in establishments certified to export to the United States. Regarding your request for exemption from species verification testing, we will contact you once we have completed our evaluation. Meanwhile, we acknowledge your actions to immediately re-institute species verification testing and commitment to operate a poultry inspection system equivalent to the U.S. system.

If you have any questions regarding the audit or need additional information, please contact me at telephone number 202-720-3781 or facsimile number 202-690-4040. You may also reach me at my email address ([sally.stratmoen.fsis.usda.gov](mailto:sally.stratmoen.fsis.usda.gov)).

Sincerely,

Sally Stratmoen, Chief  
Equivalence Section  
International Policy Staff  
Office of Policy, Program Development  
and Evaluation

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Mordehai Cohen, Minister Counselor, Embassy of Israel, Washington, DC  
Tom Pomeroy, Agriculture Counselor, American Embassy, Cairo  
Tully Friedgut, Agriculture Attaché, American Embassy, Tel Aviv  
John Wilson, FAS Area Officer  
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Country File-Israel (Audit FY-2002)

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